

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following paragraph [0060A] after paragraph [0060] (after page 17, line 31).

[0060A] FIG. 6 is a flow diagram showing the operation a method 600 for communicating between an application source located on a first side of a firewall and a network element located on a second side of the firewall, according to the present invention. An applet to drive a user request is provided (Step 601). The applet is provided to the application source by a web server included on a first side of a firewall and sent to a read/write server provided on a second side of the firewall. A hypertext transfer protocol-simple object access protocol (HTTP-SOAP) packet of said user request is created (Step 603). The HTTP portion of the HTTP-SOAP packet is removed (Step 604) in order to create a SOAP message. A user request including the SOAP message is sent to the RWS (Step 605). The SOAP message is then sent to the NMA (Step 606). An appropriate model is built in the NMA (Step 607) and the SOAP encoded request is parsed in the NEA (Step 608) to complete a single nodal transaction. A SOAP encoded request is then sent from the NMA to the NEA (Step 616) and the data is encoded in the NEA to produce the SOAP packet (Step 619). The SOAP packet is transmitted to the translator box (Step 621) and the SOAP packet is translated into an appropriate command (Step 622). The command is transmitted to the network element (Step 624).